United States finds itself to-day. The coun-

try is rich both in actual wealth and in its

capacity for producing wealth. We are reap-

ing the fruits of the expenditures for which

we ran in debt years ago. Our railroads

have made millions of acres of land availa-

ble for cultivation which without them would

remaina wilderness; our factories and mines

which we borrowed the money to build and

to open, are vielding abundantly, and we are

able to support, without foreign aid, not only

our food and clothing producers, but an

army of mechanics of all kinds. In fact, our

trouble comes from a temporary excess of

riches; and, as Mr. RANDALL himself goes

on to point out, it is a trouble which cannot

be ascribed to an adverse balance of trade

because that balance has been for several

There is this further consideration, too,

which especially makes the balance of trade

a fallacious test when it is applied to a whole

country. If the inhabitants of any country

happen to be, like those of Great Britain, the

proprietors of an immense amount of re-

a.unerative investments outside of its limits,

they may bring their incomes home to spend

and thus make the aggregate of their im-

ports exceed that of their exports. But this

evidently is no sign of embarrassment, but

of the reverse. For many years Great Britain

has annually imported more than \$500,000,000

In excess of her exports, and is still the richest

and least embarrassed country in the world.

The imports of France, Belgium, and Hol-

land always for the same reason largely ex-

ceed their imports, and yet they do not at

all impoverish them. On the other hand,

Germany and Austria usually export more

than they import, because their industries

are largely carried with capital belonging to

foreigners. The balance of trade indicates

nothing but the movement of commodities

from one place to another, and is of no value

for any other purpose. To seek to change it

from one side to the other by tariff legisla-

tion or by any other artifice, with the view of

promoting national prosperity is as useless as

or diminishing the quantity of coal mined

A high tariff may check importations, and a

low tariff may stimulate them, but national

wealth in either case will increase only by

the excess of national production over na-

tional consumption, whether that consump

tion be of home-made goods or of goods im

ported from abroad in exchange for home

A Fresh Opening for Sluggers.

It is just possible that the entertainments

the courts decided that they should be gov-

erned by the rules of Judge BARRETT in

stead of the rules of the Marquis of QUEENS-

BERRY, can be revived through a little ju-

The idea of two men pounding each other

with only the ring ropes around them is a

pose that the plot and action of a play re-

quire a sparring contest to take place, and

one of the sparrers to be, to all appearance,

knocked out, what is to prevent it? What

Judge would say that a man shoulde't be

dramatically mauled, stunged, or even anni-

Even murder is an orthodox and often

attractive feature in a play. So it is now and

a still unsurmounted objection to having it

done in full view. It used to be performed be-

tell of it and the tracedy be developed on the

understanding that it actually had been ac-

but doubtless it was introduced with timid-

and a single victim were the limit of the au-

thor's necessities for illustrating his story.

so common and so frequent, that now,

in some of our modern native dramas,

we shiver with terror and howl with

delight when Buffalo BILL or KIT, the

mows down tribes of savages and renegades

with knives and pistols and Winchesters.

that seem necessary only to be placed in vir-

tuous hands to become murderous beyond

And who would deny for a moment that such

of purpose and fearful in execution than

the representation of a simple boxing match

or even of a prize fight, as the Marquis of

QUEENSBERRY rules are than those of Judge

BARRETT? And if the drama provides that

two boxers should appear and fight, what is

to prevent Mr. SULLIVAN or any other man

from giving full play to his pugilistic talents

under the broad license of dramatic fervor

One weakness in the suggestion is, of

course, apparent. If two boxers should go

at each other in dead earnest, there could

be no certainty that the plot of the play

would not be somewhat upset by the wrong

man coming out ahead. That is a very seri-

The New Senator.

In the long struggle for the election of

Senators in 1881 to fill the seats vacated by

Mr. Conkling and Mr. Plate, two mer

were finally chosen who were hardly dreamed

of at the beginning of the contest. May it

not be so this winter? Who can tell? There

are plenty of candidates in the field, or

did when the famous race of 1881 began?

Gen. SHARPE and Mr. PLATT and Mr.

WARREN and Mr. DUTCHER, especially

Mr. DUTCHER, neither of whom has

who cast fourscore and twelve votes?

years from the fourth of March next.

single vote, but what of the ninety-two,

Our advice to these gentlemen is to take

counsel of wisdom and patriotism, and elect

JOSEPH H. CHOATE to be Senator for six

the possibility of failure.

ous objection.

ty and hesitation. Then a singl

hilated, if the playwright wanted it done?

that it was hardly a fair trial.

products.

vears in our favor.

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The regular circulation of THE SUN for the

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4.º 1885.

week ending Jan. 3, 1885, was: Total for the week 726 122

A New Story by Bret Harte.

THE SUN proposes to begin on Feb. 22, 1885. the publication of a new story by Mr. Burr Haurs. It will be divided into three numbers, and its publication will be concluded in the paper of Sunday, March 8. It is a California romance, and its title is "A Ship of

40." It is the narrative of one of the stranded mer chant ships of early days, left high and dry, and grad ually surrounded and built into the growing city of San Francisco. Until a few years past, one of these ships. used as a hotel, could be seen in one of the principal thoroughfares of that town.

We shall be giad to hear from those of our contem poraries in other places who may wish to join Tax Sus in a syndicate for the contemporaneous publication of

The Week of Prayer.

The week of prayer, set apart by what is known as the Evangelical Alliance, begins to-day. It may be said in general, we think that all the non-liturgical churches which teach the orthodox theology are accustomed to join with more or less heartiness in the observance of this week of supplication.

For them it seems to be a sort of abbreviated Lenten season, with the fasting left out. Actual material fasting, in fact, does not seem to be any longer practised in those religious denominations, unless by plous individuals here and there. Nor is the work regarded as of peculiar solemnity by the rembers of the communions which unite mits observance. Very few of them, for instance, will in any manner change their ourse of life during the week, and it is not probable that the prayer meetings will be overcrowded.

Of late years the interest in such meetings in most of the so-called evangelical denominations, if not in all of them, seems to have greatly declined. The younger people are ant to keen away from the week-day assemblies for prayer, and the pressure of evening engagements is so great in a large city that even the older men and women may be rare attendants. Besides, the prayer meeting is less attractive than of old, for it has been growing more formal and more spiritless, with few exceptions.

It is true that over in Brooklyn Mr. BEECHER gets a pretty fair audience at his prayer meeting, but the people come out chiefly to hear him talk and pray, and not to make their own confessions and to utter their own supplications. On that night he speaks in a more offhand way than on Sunday, and his followers feel that he is earer to them. But whosoever thinks that BEECHER reveals himself fully and honestly even in his most tearful and apparently confidential moods shows that he does not know the man. At any rate, it cannot be gainsaid that the Plymouth Church prayer meeting is for the display of BEECHER in the light in which he wishes to appear rather than for the glorification of God.

The old-fashioned prayer meeting was something very different. The pastor may have presided it is true, and opened the exarcises, but the deacons and other members of the church followed one another in prayer and in the relation of religious experiences. There was accordingly much diversity in the proceedings, which were enthrely voluntary. It might be that in ordinary times the meeting would drag a little, and some of the supplications and exhortations would seem rather perfunctory and spiritless, but in seasons of revival great fervor prevailed.

We doubt very much, however, whether this week of prayer will be distinguished by such spiritual warmth. The spiritual atmosphere in these churches at the present day is rather cold. The times have not been good for business, and most men have been getting poorer for two or three years back; but we do not observe indications that such adversity is driving them to their knees in humiliation and submission, as it has done in the past. There are no present signs of a great coming awakening, such as that we had in 1857, for instance.

It is hardly probable, indeed, that the churches which pay heed to the week of prayer will be more than usually attended to-day, when the suggested subject of pulpit discourse will be "The Good Fight of Faith" -a very appropriate theme for discussion in these days of skepticism both inside and outside of the Church.

Monday evening's prayer meeting will be devoted to praise and thank-giving, good reasons for which mankind have at ail times, despite the croakings of morbid pessimists. Tuesday evening will be given up to humilation and confession, which may be consonant with the mood at a time like this. Wednesday evening the whole Church of CHRIST will be prayed for in accordance with the custom of all those who Divine grace. Thursday evening the supplications will be for families and for instructors of youth, for of first importance in the development of character is the home and school instruction. Friday evening there will be prayer for the nations, that they may all be brought into the fold of true religion, and Saturday evening petitions for home and foreign missions will be sent up, for the life of the Church is in its efforts to

spread its faith. On the Sunday following the conclusion of

pearance." Whether this is intended to invite a discussion as to the second coming of CHRIST we do not know, but probably it will be generally treated rather as meaning the

triumph of Christianity over its infidel foes. It will be observed that all the subjects of prayer above enumerated are not of a specific nature, but broad generalities. This would Indicate that no direct and immediate answer is expected to the petitions to be offered, but that they are rather to be made the vehicles for expressing the plous sentiments and the adoration of the worshippers.

Joseph Thomson's Travels.

The most noteworthy of recent explorations in Africa is the journey of Mr. JOSEPH Thomson, whose preliminary report and map have lately been published. He completed last June nearly 2,000 miles of travel, occupying a year and a half, in the region directly between the Indian Ocean and Victoria Nyanza. Although East African exploration began in this very region some forty years ago, when KRAPF and REBMANN discovered the snow-capped equatorial peaks of Kenta and Kilimaniaro, the country has been the last to yield up its geographical secrets. The flaree Masat herdsmen, who have repeatedly ravaged the land from the great lake to the sea, have effectually barred out exploration.

The Royal Geographical Society selected this young man, who is only about twentysix years old, to conduct its dangerous and costly enterprise. His wanderings for many months among the worst savages in Africa, without injuring a native or losing a man, have shown that the society chose its lender wisely. Thomson had already shown his uncommon fitness as an explorer. When KEITH Johnston, the geographer, died, almost on the threshold of the work intrusted to him. THOMSON, then twenty-one years old, who had secompanied him as geologist, took charge of the party, traversed the new fields assigned to it, and brilliantly completed its work. He was the first explorer to reach the head of Lake Nyassa from Zanzibar, and to cross the region between Nyassa and Tanganvika. He and Mr. Hour settled the disputed question as to Tanganvika's outlet. and he was the first white man to visit Lake Hikwa.

Thomson's recent explorations correct some geographical blunders and furnish edditional facts about tribes that are unequalled in Africa for their peculiarities. After leaving Mombasa, on the Indian Ocean, he and his 140 men had to flee in the night from the savages, whose hostility had been so intensified by a fight, in which the explorer Fischen had killed several of them, that Thomson was compelled to await at Kilimanjaro the arrival of a strong caravan of Swahili traders, in whose company he traveiled far into the interior. At Lake Naivasha, where FISCHER turned back, THOMSON entered unknown lands. He had almost to bore his way through the Masais, who plundered him at every step, foreing him to pay so dearly for his passage that his \$15,000 of goods were exhausted some time before he reached the coast again. His resources were reduced at last to the celebrity he had sequired as a medical man; but, fortunately, he soon reached friendly natives and left danger behind him.

He has given a definite place on the maps to Mount Kenia, the great volcanic cone, whose uppermost 3,000 feet, he says, is characterized by glittering facets of snow. The equator passes through the mountain, which is 18,000 feet high and springs from a plain that is 5,700 feet above the sea. Years ago learned geographers proved to their own satisfaction that the poor missionaries were lying when they said that Kenia and its giant brother, Killmanjaro, had snow-crowned tops. As to this question, REBMANN and

KRAPP have now been justified by Thomson. He has visited and fixed the location of Lake Baringo, which excited great interest when Speke brought home rumors of its exstence. It has had an indefinite place on the maps for more than twenty years, and only last winter the missionaries north of Victoria Nyanza wrote that they were convinced from native information that the lake did not exist. Thouson found it "a glittering, isle-besprinkled" sheet of water lying several thousand feet below the many vol canic hills that border it. He says he has seen nothing in Africa to equal the wonderful lake and mountain scenery that here met his eye. Lake Baringo lies in the great depression or trough that extends for many hundred miles from the Red Sea southwest. ending in Tanganyika.

THOMSON has also rounded off the northeast corner of Victoria Nyanza, which has been represented on the maps as an extension of the main lake. He says his observations indicate that a considerable part of the fertile and densely populated country of Kavirondo lies where Victoria Nyanza is placed on our maps. According to him, Kavirondo has figured on the maps considerably south of its proper position at the northeast corner of the lake. Mr. STANLEY's survey of a large part of the Nyanza was necessarily hurried, and Mr. Mackay, who is supposed to be now mapping the coasts,

says that STANLEY's map is very imperfect. The most extraordinary of Mr. Thomson's liscoveries was a large number of artificial inhabited caves about forty miles north of the northeast coast of the great lake. They were cut out of compact volcanic rock at the base of Mount Elgon, and numbers of them were occupied by whole villages and their cattle. They were thirty feet high, and extended into utter darkness further, he says, than he had time to penetrate. The present nhabitants have no tradition regarding their origin. Their number and great size, and the fact that they all occupy the same level, led him to conclude that they were once mines. The impossibility of procuring sufficient food prevented him from making a thorough investigation. These huge cave dwellings can hardly be more than 150 miles from the English mission station in Uganda, and mis-

sionary or other explorers will probably make them a subject of further inquiry before a great while. Mr. Thomson's description of the habits and character of the Masais, of the lofty and healthful plateaus where their vast herds of

eattle roam, of beautiful scenery, volcanic regions, and dreary wastes will add largely o our knowledge of equatorial Africa. In he volume he is soon to publish he will undoubtedly express his views on the possibility of opening a direct route from the seacoast to Victoria Nyanza, thereby saving three hundred miles of travel. One of the hief purposes of his expedition was to investigate this question. It has been the opinion of Archbishop FARLER, Mr. LAST, and one or two others, who have some ac quaintance with the Masais, that by paience and kindness their friendship might be won, and a highway opened through their grazing lands. Mr. Last's estimate of them seems, in one respect at east, to have been verified by Thomson's experience. He thought that explorers should depend more for safety upon patient and considerate treatment of these natives than upon firearms. It has been Thomson's motto in all his explorations that "he who the week of prayer the topic of pulpit dis- goes gently goes safe; he who goes safe goes

seems to have twice carried him safely through the Masal country, where other have encountered only repulse.

The Cosmogonists of Cosmos House.

The Christian Philosophical Institute, Cosmos House, Balham, S. W., was founded for the purpose of knocking out Sir Isaac NEWTON, COPERNICUS, and other scientific persons. Sir Isaac's theories are denounced by the C. P. I. as "solar fictions" and "baseless superstitions." It is the purpose of the cosmogonists of Cosmos House to apply severe common sense to these baseless superstitions, and erect a sensible cosmogony upon the ruins of the Newtonian theories. From "Occasional Paper, No. 4," lately issued by the Christian Philosophers, we infer that their efforts to rebuke error have not been favorably received, for they denounce the press as cowardly and time-serving, and say that it has kept the English nation in a state of mental thraidom and ignorance. Schoolmasters and educators in general have been just as bad, but the Christian Philosophers are sure that the prevalent false philosophy will uitimately be crushed. "The Almighty will bring confusion and dismay on it all," they say, "and the whole world will be compolled to confess that the senseless devices of philosophers, falsely so called, are nothing better than the lowing and braying o the ox and the ass." Let us watch for a moment the Christian Philosophical Institute as it slaughters the lowing oven and

braying asses of science. The Newtonians say that the earth is a planet, and here is where they make their mistake, for "all the planets are said to be worlds, so that the two systems of terrestrial and celestial physics, which by the Creator Himself were kept as distinct and separate as words could make them, have been mixed up by these modern improvers, till he words geography and astronomy are used as synonomous terms."

Another mistake exposed by the C. P. I. concerns the figure of the earth:

"Because the sun, and the moon, and the stars are hought to be round or spherical therefore the earth must be so too, whether facts confirmed the idea or next But the pretended curvature has never been detected or any part of the earth or ocean since the world was made! It seems to be, indeed, the one only shape the Almighty never has created! Hills, and valleys, and plains of every size and extent; but any approach to a convature such as the globe theorists require has never orvature such as the globe theories require has never con met with during all the most careful measurenents which have been made, during the last half cen tury and upward, in the construction of thousands of miles of railways. What is absurdly called the dip o e horizon' at sea is no 'dip' at all! All distant objects of the same size gradually diminish, according to dis-lance, on any flat surface. But the apparent decrease in size has nothing to do with any variation from a true wel. The higher the observer ascends the further can e see. But his line of vision is always at right angle or a tangent to his perpendicular. If he goes to the top of a real elevation he has to look down or deflect his telescope. This is never the case when looking at the norizen even from the car of a bailson, or the top of the bighest mountain he can reach. So that the so-called dip' is a fraud and falsehood, next every other phrase onnected with the subject."

A still greater mistake is the theory of the earth's motion. In the cool light of common sense that illumes Cosmos Houthis faseinating hypothesis is seen to be "preposterous:"

"First of all, its axial motion or revolution wn axis, at a rate of 1000 miles an hour; and the still nore astaunding and inconceivable orbital motion rounthe sun, at a special of over 1,100 miles a minute! This four times quicker than a finsh of lightning, and iwenty times quicker than the flight of a canno ball! It is also said it carries the atmosphere with it; but we often see the wind blowing in addrectly contrary direction. And birds and butterflies can all keep up with t, and the smoke from our chimners are ands as leisurely as if no movement existed. What are the grounds o this extraordinary device! Has anybody ever felt or had any reason to imagine for a memoral that two such violent and terrific metions could possibly exist without their being in any way sensible of it?"

The "equally absurd condition of solar attraction" is disposed of with the same neatness and despatch. The C. P. I. people say there is no need of attraction anyway. Prove that your old earth is round "and without any visible means of support" before you inik about attraction, and even then it would be just as sensible to say that "the earth is supported by the feet of the 'antipoteans." For common sense comes in and shows that "solid bodies will not float unsupported in space. The sun has never been proved to be capable of attracting anything. The silly question, 'On what, then does the earth rest?' can only be answered by saying we have never been told, nor where space ended above us or beyond us. Such knowledge is unnecessary, and has therefore never been imparted, especially to the brainless simpletons who have not intelligence enough to understand facts that are already as clear as daylight."

Moreover, these "brainless bloots" don't really believe in their own theories. Thus astronomers don't believe that the earth moves, for "they often build strong grantle pillars on which to fix their telescopes, and use every precaution to avoid the slightest disturbance while taking their observations. What would be the use of going through this elaborate farce if they knew they were lodged on a globe spinning through space

our times quicker than a flash of lightning?" Perhaps the astronomers would have trouble in answering the questions proposed by the hard-headed common-sense philosophers of Cosmos House. But even the astronomers might give up their baseless superstition if they would read the publications of the C. P. I., a set of which may be had for 3s. 6d., only "half the original price." A commonsense cosmogony for three and sixpence

ought to be a bargain. With what vigor the C. P. I. pursues its attack upon science may be judged from the following passage from a letter printed in the North Cheshire Herald. The writer of it bears the great name of JOHN HAMPDEN, and this is the way in which he goes for the Newtonian theory:

"No such fraud has ever before or since been cor prived by man. Satan himself must have devised it, in order to bring discredit and contempt on the inspired volume, and most successful have his efforts hitherto been. * * The Newtonian theory is not partly frue and partly false; but I affirm there is not one particle of tupendous and most pernicious lie that ever came fro the bottomiess pit, without one redeeming discovery t mitigate the intensity of the fraud!"

Mr. HAMPDEN and his associates evidently nean business.

The Balance of Trade Fallacy.

We regret to find so eminent a statesman as the Hon. SAMUEL J. RANDALL apparently assenting to the old and often exposed fal lacy that the balance of trade is an index of national prosperity. In his recent speech to the Louisville Board of Trade Mr. RANDALL ascribes our panies of 1837 and 1857 to the previous excess in each case of our imports over our exports, and then proceeds:

"It is a trite saying, and some of us have realized th truth of it, that a man who spends more money than he makes will become embarrassed, and I say, according to my judgment, a country which imports more than it exports must become embarrassed."

As a matter of fact it is not true that a man who spends more than he makes must necessarily become embarrassed. All depends upon what he spends his money for. If he pays it away for champagne, cigars, and riotous living he will undoubtedly get into trouble, but if he invests it in judicious farm improvements, in good mill and factory machinery, or in a well-selected stock of goods, the expenditure will be profitable, and be a purely Western variety of crime. but the

make him richer in the end. The same is esibility of its flourishing in the more thickly settled East was shown in Maryland on Fri-day night, when two men robbed a train on the Baltimore Central Ballroad, in regular Arkantrue of a nation. If it spends more than it makes, not in luxuries and pleasures, but in noreasing the productive capacity of its sas style. It is strange that when so many land, its mines, its forests, and its manufacmen are carrying pistols on the plea of selftories, it will, instead of becoming embar defence nobody ever has a weapon when rassed, eventually repay its borrowings and be better off than ever. This is the condition in which the

We have a controversy with the Albany Argus. "THE SUN." says our contempo rary, "took up Mr. BurLER, in the late cam paign, as a shining exemplar of what ought to be." This we say is inaccurate. We supported Gen. Burler because he holds to Democratic pinions, and because the candidate of the Democratic party was not satisfactory. It was essary to put in a protest, and we proteste with BUTLER. But we never thought him entirely perfect. He is too old, isn't quick enough in a foot race, can't sing a song, doesn't play tennis, never learned how to grow mushroom and we dare say never attended a cock-fight or Sunday morning in Cuba with the parish priest setting up his own bird in the combat All these little defects limit the perfection of Gen, Butter as a shining ideal of what ough to be. But, on the other hand, he produces fifty ideas where the Argus yields five, his wit is genuine, his eloquence unaffected, his patriotism has stood the test of fire, his Democ racy is Jacksonian, and he knows a good din ner and a good glass of champagne as well as the wisest philosopher that ever lived. If he is your friend, you can bot on BEN BUTLER every time; and if he is your foe, you can bet on him too. Long live the old hero-a hero in war, in law, and above all in politics!

One of the mottoes at Birmingham during Mr. RANDALL's reception called for "Peace, Pig Iron, and Prosperity." These are very desirable things to the Birmingham people, but if Mr. WATTERSON over goes to their town they will have to put up some motto like this: "Fun, Fighting, and Free Trade." He does get a good deal of fun and plenty of fighting out of his devotion to free trade. But he doesn't seem to be able to get much free trade,

The earthquake shocks in Spain still continue. During the past ten days the inhabitants of that country south of the Guadalquiver have had almost no respite from the state of terror into which the repeated shaking of the earth has thrown them. News comes every day of further destruction of life and property. No man can tell when the end will be, and the suffering and destitution among those whose homes have been destroyed are so great that the Spanish Government solicits the charity of all countries.

trying to improve the weather by Increasing Everybody remembers our earthquake of last summer, which, slight as it was, caused a great deal of alarm, Imagine such a shock increased many fold in power, so that strong buildings are tumbled down like card houses. and repeated day after day, and many times in a day, and some notion will be obtained of the terrible condition of things in southern Spain. In fact, it is not alone in Spain that the earth is restless. On Friday night Maryland experienced an earthquake shock which greatly alarmed the inhabitants, though it did no further harm than shaking down dishes and rattling windows.

We may get what comfort we can from the which underwent an apparent collapse, when reflection that earthquakes appear to be a necessary feature of that stage of a planet's history during which life is possible upon its surface. The earth is still cooling and as it contracts its crust bends and trembles under dicious mixture with the drama. This was the compressing forces. But if the fate of the recently attempted in Brooklyn, and failed, moon may be taken as a criterion, when earthbut there were several reasons that indicate quakes cease and the era of cooling and contraction is completely ended, life will be no more possible upon the motionless surface of the earth, on account of the lack of air and water, than it now is upon the deserted disk of little too crude for legal toleration; but sup-

After a thoughtful perusal of the able essays with which repat of our esteemed contemporaries remembered New Year's Day, we are inclined to award the cake for solidity of moral doctrine and for chasteness of imagery to the Chicago Inter-Ocean. As befits a prophet castigating a wicked city given up to the Mammon of pork and all unrig decumness, our contemperary preaches repentance and contemns so it always has been since the drama began weak resolutions. Yet it is not wholly unkind in Greece, although in those days there was to human weakness, and admits that "it seems very natural to the young and old children of grim mother earth that a reform spirit should hind the scenes, and the chorus would then be evoked from the fresh breath of each newborn flower of destiny." Its subsequent refer-"tipplers" and the "cup," however, complished. We don't know when the first shows that the childrenfol grim Chicago are in the habit of evoking an alcoholic spirit on visible theatrical murder was committed, New Year's Day. They forswear the cup, in-deed, "but, like the cowled monk of medieval me, the scourge of conscience is left at the shrine of devotion, while remembrance of repentance is the after license for uncurbed in But by constant practice it has grown dulgence." It hasn't been generally known litherto that the cowled monk used to be left at the shrine.

New Year's Day in the White House.

Arkansas Traveller, decimates a barroom or Washington, Jan. 2.-The New Year's Day servances at the White House were of the conven order, except that instead of merely the wives of the Cabinet officers assisting the President, there was a con-tingent of sixty ladies invited, the wives of Senators and Representatives. This practice was introduced by Mrs. McElroy, and is sensible. Mrs. Carlisle ran away to Kentucky like a woman of sense, to excape the ma-kind remarks that the other women in official life made scenes as these are as much more wicked about the marked distinction accorded her by the Predent last New Year's. On that occasion President Arthur offered Mrs. Carlisle his arm, and gave her the place to which she is entitled as wife of the Speaker. came very near killing half a dozen old ladies, and it looked at one time on New Year's Day, 1884, as if the President would have to read the riot act to some of the wives of the Supreme Court Judges. Their partisal then represented that Mrs. Carlisle had made th row. While she simply maintained a ladylike comosure the other women were having a monkey andparrot time about the precedence accorded her. So presumably to snow these women how little she cared about the unsought honors, she this year packed berself and Mr. Carlisle off to Kentucky, and will stay there ur

til the 4th of January.

The manners of some women reached that pitch dur-ing the Grant and Haves Administrations that it took all President Arthur's tact and judgment to bring thom up to aurthing like a proper standard. Some tried hard to buildoze Mrs. Mcklroy mon her assumption of the daties of the lady of the White House pro tem, but Mrs. &c-Eircy, a small, sensible, determined woman, stood her ground, and routed the whole brigade of meddlers, horse,

foot, and dragoous.

Mrs. Blaine, who heretofore has been invited to reseive at the White House on New Year's, was left out this time. Mrs. Blatne is a Trojan, and no respector of per sons, so the President, who is a man of pence, thought i

The Shaple Truth of History.

rather there are plenty of persons who From the Hour. think they are candidates. The conspicuous Gen, Grant's downward career began when aspirants are easily discernible, and, of he, the military dol of his fellow citizens, entered the partisan service of the Republicans and gave up to party what was meant for mankind. As the Executive of the nation he became the victin of the most unserncourse, each of these scens confident of sucess. We occasionally hear from those less prominent, and they appear to be just as pulous band of political scoundiels wite ever foster sure that they will finally carry off the prize. themselves upon an American administration. During the eight years he presided in the White House there was scarcely a mouth which did not discuss some deed Well, why not? Has it not often turned out to in past times? Can anybody now stand of rascality on the part of those whom he called to fill some of the most important offices in his gift. One of his private secretaries, now dead, barriv escaped expulfurther from the winning post than EL-BRIDGE G. LAPHAM and WARNER MILLER ion from the army and a cell in the pennentiary. Ouite as worthy of consideration as any o of his Cabinet officers was accuse t of high crithe foregoing suggestions stan is the fact that the ninety-two Republicans in the Legcome the synonym of all that is but and corrupt in Islature who are to decide this question may bad and corrunt age. Even tien, Grant's own relative did not hesitate, in their greed for money, to bring do prove to be a very unmanageable body. Will they all come to the caucus and be bound by istration will live in our history as the most corrupt u the result, or will some of them stay out, as was the case in 1881? We hear much about

The Lutes, Cablact Neus.

From the Contraction Bayard. Whitney, Garland, McJionaid, and Vilar are loss and and there are but two places remaining—one to the south and the other North—and the only serious doubt is whether one of the places is to be allowed by an Ohio man. The other southern man will probably be Jonas or Hunton.

News from Philadelphia. From Mr. Childe's Public Ledger.

The robbing of passenger trains by men INDIANAPOLIS. Jan. 3.—The \$3,800 money package lost by the Adams Express Company on Tuesday night was found this morning. John O'Hara, who was arrested charged with the theft, has been released.

INTERESTING NEWS FROM INDIANA.

Mrs. McDonald and Marthew Arneld-Mr.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 2.-Matthew Arnold, while in this city, was the guest of the Hon. W. P. Fishback. After the eminent English man had concluded his discourse he stepped from the stage to the floor of the hall and, addressing Mrs. Arnold, who at the moment was communicating with a bevy of ladies, said in tone of warm earnestness peculiar to this speculative thinker and poet, "Wife, with me. I desire to present you to the most

seautiful woman in the world." 'Who?" was asked.

"The wife of Senator McDonald." By the accidental departure of Mr. McDonald and wife the opportunity of an introduction was lost, which the cultivated Briton feelingly deplored in these terms: "So spiritual a creature of transcendent beauty, so fine a specinan of lovely womanhood I never met before." I faithfully give this as it was given to me by W. P. Fishback himself, believing that it will shed some light on the romance by which this lady is environed at the instance of those mysterious Washington people of the pen.

Mrs. Joseph E. McDonall is at that period of woman life when a man may piously adore the elevating memory of a sainted mother in her benign face. On her soft cheek there is the delicate lustre of the open rose as well as a glow of girlish strength. Surmounting a brow elegantly moulded is a vast wealth of hair, silken in its softness-not gray, but white as the snow drift. 'Faint lines that Johnson might characterize as beauty marks chasten and contribute to an expression that Raphael would surely have loved to paint. Where Matthew

surely have loved to paint. Where Matthow Arnold is cited as authority on a subject, even if sacred, so full of poetry, a correspondent certainly has license to note the exquisite blending of girlhood and grandmotherhood in one glorious presence, though he may acknowledge that to describe with anything like justice lies beyond his possibilities.

The dream of Mr. McDonald's life was to be a lawyer, and success in that profession seems to satisfy the full measure of his ambition. All his early work was to that end, and even the mastery of the sandder's trade was merely the expedient of a farmer lad to pursue independently such studies at college as would lay the foundation for legal knowledge. To the duties of life he brought a farm training, a rugged experience on the frontier, and that symmetrical development of heart and purpose peculiar to the widow's son, whose charactor is largely formed under the responsibilities that devolve on the head of a detendent family, Gov. Wallace, while a widower, consigned his boy Law, now tien. Wallace, to the exclusive care of Mr. McDonald's mother. The American Minister to Constantinople and the eminent Democrat were boys together, and they vie with each other to-day in revering the good woman's memory.

can Minister to Constantinople and the eminant Democrat were boys together, and they vie with each other to-day in revering the good woman's memory.

I repeated to Mr. McDonald last evening in his library that Mr. Hendricks, in a previous conversation with me, had observed that Presidents were the most sensitive of men in regard to newspaper criticism—that he had found Mr. Lincoin greatly concerned, and had seen Andrew Johnson tremble with excitement while reading what he believed an unjust editorial opinion regarding his Administration. Yes, answered Mr. McDonald, a consciousness of responsibility begets extreme sensitiveness. I remember, with Mr. Hendricks, calling on President Lincoin during the month of January 1865, to intercede for Bowles, Milligan, and Horsey, who were condemned to death by a court martial. I think the clock told seventhirty as we entered the antercoom, which was crowded with people, and some of the most distinguished of the country. I looked around and despaired of an interview with the President that evening, and we sent our cards in with reluctance. Mr. Hendricks was in the Benate, its true, but a Democrat, and I had a few months previously been defeated for Governor of Indiana by Morton. Great was our surprise was in store for us. When we left Mr. Lincoin that night the clock told eleven-thirty, and there was not a soul in the antercom. All of that time, with the exception of a few minutes, the President took up explaining Hornce Greeley's mistaken views regarding the Ningara Peace Commission. When presented to Mr. Lincoin he said: 'I need no introduction to McDonald. We have practised law in the same circuit long years, and told stories far into the night around the same coal fire.' Then he plunged into the subject nearest his heart, beginning with Horace Greeley's first letter, tracing, the development, step by step, as he would have stated a law case, until the conference ended. Mr. Lincoin, for the purpose of telling you what is

Mr. Lincoln not only believed that he was right, but felt called upon to convince the country that he was right.

"This exhausted, I said: 'We did not call, Mr. Lincoln, for the purpose of telling you what is in the record, but to acquaint you with outside facts.' I then told him that the Knights of the Golden Circle was not a treasonable organization, as represented, or hostile to the conduct of the war in the proper acceptation of that term, and, though neither Senator Hendricks nor mysel! were ever members, good men had joined, believing it a protection.

"I have lived too long in Illinois,' Mr. Lincoln replied, 'to believe that any considerable number of citizens in that State, Indiana, or Ohio could be guilty of treason. Gen. Singleton, for whom I entertain the highest respect (we were Whigs together, he at the disbanding of that party going to the Democrats and I to the Republicans), explained it all lately, and he told me that he had been a Knight of the Golden Circle."

"Although these men are charged with a crime calling for capital punishment, I said, knowing you, I felt that the death pennity

erime calling for capital punishment, I knowing you. I felt that the death per would never be executed if explanation made.

If I had to do the butchering for the world.

Mr. Lincoln replied, there would be an appailing meat famine.

Massachusetts and the Washington Monume

Washington, Jan. 2.-It seems conceded that Massachus its is to have entire charge of the dedication of the Washington Monument. Some imbeelles have suggested, since Mr. Winthrop will be manifestly unable to deliver the address, that some distinguished Virginian be selected either to read Mr. Winthrop's speech or to make an original one. But no-if not M Winthrop, Mr. John D. Long; if not Mr. Long, Senator George F. Hoar; if not Mr. Hoar, Dr. George B. Loring: f not Dr. Loring, somebody from Massachusetts an how. If one takes the trouble to glance over Jar Sparks's "Writings of Washington" down over Jared hibrary, and turns to Washington's letters during the siege of Soston, he will find a great many paragraphs marked with a strong black victous pencil lin was done by the hand of Mr. James G. Blaine when he was preparing his philippic against Mr. Hoar. Gen. Washington's opinions of Massachusetts, of the nature of the following, are marked with a double pe

To Joseph Reed:
Such a dearth of public spirit and such a want of virtue, such stock jobbing and fertility in all the low arts to obtain advantages of one kind and another, I never saw before, and pray God's mercy I may never be witness to again. Mussachusetts not only would not furnish men, toney, or arms, but such as volunteered were compilmented by Gen. Washington as follows:

I am as well convinced as if I had seen it that they will not march boldly up to a work, or stand exposed in This disrespectful way of writing of Massachusetti chivalry was supplemented by a still greater impertinence on the part of the Father of his Country in a letter to Congress, in which he actually comes of and says:

I am sorry to be necessitated to mention to you the egragious want of public spirit which reigns here. Instead of pressing to be eneaged in the cause of their country. I find we are likely to be deserted at a most critical time. By all means let a Massachusetts man be selected to dedicate the Washington Monument. The General can't rise up-he has a ton or two of maride on him-and the

her to the vanit was thrown into the Potomac I Compliments to Our Office Cat.

A DEMOCRATIC CAT. Mr. Data says that the eat in The Sun office may have eaten the copy of flow. Cleveland's letter on the civil service reform. A good many hungry bemocrata doubtless with that one of the same bred had been kept in the executive department at Albany. From the Providence Jo

A HIGHLY EDUCATED CAT. From the Hartford Con

The course of Tus Sus cat marks a rew departure. Perials the purification of journalism will be accomplished when the race of cass is educated to true perception of what should be printed and want should be kept out of sight.

It is Grammatical. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you

adly settle a dispute occasioned by the familiar prayer beginning: "Now I by me down to sleep?" The matte n dispute is the third line; "If I should die before I ardent? Scoren Franss, Jan. 3,

The Sun le Right.

To This Editors of The Sun-Sir: I very often right The Sun-sentences in which the verts are arranged as in the following: "He gave him \$5 to help buy contract. What I should say would be, "to help to buy clothes." What I should say would be, "to help to buy clothes," and my authority a simple rule of syntax which I learned when at a simple rule of syntax which is tearned when at a simple rule of syntax which is the flowes or depend upon it in the infinitive mood." Is The Sus right or am I is. W. Watt. Brooklyn, Jan. 3.

BROOKLYN, Jan. 3.

Pleurisy pains and all asthmatic and bronchial affections are soon relieved by that certain remedy for coughs and colds, Dr. Jayne's Espectorant.—449.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

There has been gayety enough in the last week to fill a very large book of society records. It began on Monday night with Mrs. Robert Goelet's ball, and ended this morning at an hous that shall be nameless, when Mrs. Reed's the-

atre and cotilion party broke up. Mrs. Goelet's ball was all that had been imagined or anticipated. It was one of those exceptional entertainments where nothing was omitted or forgotten, and where every requisite and condition for success was present. hypercritical declared the ballroom to be too small, and fault was found with the conservatory by sentimental couples as not affording space enough for flirtation. The grumbler, however, is always abroad, and always prepared to detect a flaw in the most priceless gom. If he can say nothing else, he will condemn an entertainment as he would a beautiful woman, as being "faultily faultiess, monotonously Certainly the ball on Monday night grand." was all that the charming hostess and hospita-

ble host could desire.

The engagement of Mr. Harry Warren, brother of Mrs. Goelet, and Miss Williams of Stonington was announced at the ball, and Miss Williams was presented to and received the congratulations of that fortunate portion of New York society which was in attendance. Mrs. Mason Jones's rosebud cotillon on Tue-day night was a very pretty affair. half a dozen matrens, properly so called, were present, and the floor of the white and gold palfroom was covered with girlish figures in exquisite costumes of white, rose and blue, who, as they threaded their way through the intricacies of the german to strains of sweetest music, produced an effect of veritable fairy land. The dinner of the Delta Pai Society caused the absence of several of the very young men, but the elder ones, who were present in larger numbers than usual, were both able and willing to fill their places. Miss Post, who was dressed with French simplicity and freshuess, carried eight or nine bouquets, but her distinction in this line was disputed by Miss Ruth Baylies, a debutante of last season, who was aden with almost as many. This was the last dancing party of the year, and with its close the maidens laid aside the privileges and bade adien to the opportunities that leap year is supposed to confer.

As engagements have been noticeably few and far between during the last twelve months, either the maidens have scorned and neglected their opportunities or young men have claimed to a large extent the feminine privilege of reusal. Haif the young noblemen of England are said to have declined the hand of the Princess Beatrice, and so it may chance that the golden youth of our city have a catalogue raisonnée of offers rejected during the past year.

Mrs. Francklyn's was the only "old year out and the new year in " party that was givenand although gay and pleasant, there was no dancing. Rosebuds were scarce and dudes were scarcer. It was a dignified and brilliant assemblage, where diamonds flashed and conversation was almost bright enough to rival them. The new year was ushered in by a choral sung by boys and thus got a welcome as warm if not as noisy as it received outside, where horns, whistles, and trumpets created a disturbance in comparison with which the firecracker and toy pistol of the Fourth of July are gentle and melodious. That noise-loud, bistant, disturbing noise-is the proper vehicle for the expression of joy and congratulation, is a belief which this model republic shares with China

only, and not with any civilized community. The gayeties of New Year's Day fell far short of the enjoyments of Christmas. Jack Frost, as if in league with Christmas fairies, quietly followed in their wake, and left fog, mist, and gloom to reign in his stead. Parties who went down to Rockaway and Garden City encountered a damp, murky atmosphere, which quenched enthusiasm and took the starch out of men's collars and the curl out of girls' front locks. The Meadow Brook Club was the only one honored by the presence of ladies. Mrs. Ludlow and Mrs. Frederick Swan chaperoned a party of young people to Garden City on Wednesday afternoon, among whom were Miss Baylies, Miss Swan, Miss Taller, Miss Turnure, Miss Otis, and Messrs, Turnure, Lanter, Work, Cheever, and Pyne. A dinner and a dance at the Kennels made New Year's Eve gay, and a pigeon match at the Westminster Kennel Club on the following day did imperfect duty for sleighing and skating, which are the legitinate pleasures of the season. Mrs. Butler Duncan entertained a large luncheon party at her home on Staten Island but the rain decended and the fog took everything within its reach into its clammy embrace, and consequently the jollity which ought to be a feature of a New Year entertainment was dampened.

Two large young ladies' dinners were given on Friday at Mrs. Rives's and Mrs. Frederick Vanderbilt's, and last night forcible possession was taken of Wallack's Theatre by Mrs. Rend's party of over any young people. Among them were Miss Duer, Miss Otis, Miss Stephens, Miss Lentilhon, Miss Berryman, Miss Adèle Grant, Miss Heckscher, Miss Baylies, Miss Post, and Miss Edith Warren. A german and a supper followed at Mrs. Reed's residence in Twelfth treet, and ended the gayeties of the first three days of the new year.

The prospects for the next fortnight can hardly be called discouraging. The second F. C. D. C. takes place at Delmonico's on Monday. and promises to be a better ball than the first. On Tuesday evening the Metropolitan Opera House will be thrown open for the time-honored Charity ball. Charitable men and patient, persevering ladies have given, as of old, much time and thought to the arrangements for this ball, which it is earnestly hoped may be productive of enjoyment to those who attend, and of substantial advantage to the Nursery and Child's Hospital, to whose funds it usually brings so handsome a contribution.

Cards are out for a dinner at Mrs. Coleman Drayton's on Thursday next, for a cotillon at Mrs. Francis McNiel Bacon's on the 9th, and for one at Mrs. Dickey's on Tuesday, the 13th. Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry, formerly Miss Louiss Livingston, gives a german on the 14th, to be followed by a dinner at Mrs. George Henry Warren's and the second Assembly on Thursday, the 15th. So the new year opens bravely, and the young and the gay have no occasion for despondency as regards the remainder of the winter campaign. Reference has been made to the number of

failures that have taken place among the con-

sectioners and bonbon firms of Paris. Rein-

hardt of the Rue de la Paix, successor to the

famous Siraudin, stopped payment and shul

up shop a year ago, and quite recently Char-

bonnel, whose chocolates and marrons were,

to use feminine language, "a perfect dream," has also come to grief, and for something like \$200,000. Fronch people, it

seems, have no longer money to spend for su-

perfluities of this kind. If a similar result

could follow hard times and a scarcity of money

in this country, a great gain would be secured

for the rising generation, and all but doctors

and dentists would rejoice. During an after-

noon's walk up Broadway one has only to

glance in at the leading confectioners' to see

crowds of young women filling their pockets

and satchels with expensive and injurious

before dinner, and at the informal 5 o'clock

teas where the fair purchasers drop in, papers

are opened and an indiscriminate consump-

tion of bonbons begins. A healthy appetite is

thus spoiled and the foundation laid for an

endless variety of stomach and teeth troubles.

During the season of Lent, when other pleas-

ures coase, and when a rigid abstinence from

meat is often observed, the harvest of the bon-

bon makers begins. Attendance at afternoon

prayers is always followed by a visit to the

andy shop, and there are very few damsels who

do not keep a little candy shop of their own in

their top drawer at home. Foreigners exclaim

and parents and teachers protest against this

wilful indulgence of a pernicious habit, which

ought almost to be classed among the vices. Indeed, it is doubtful whether it be not as de-

structive of human health and usefulness as

excessive smoking and whiskey drinking are

to very young men.

weets. The hour for nurchasing is shortly

believe in the efficacy of such appeals to

course will be "Walting for the Lord's Ap- far." A strict adherence to this principle

misdemeanors and summon distinctor of the highest court known to the law. The name of another one has

True love is spontaneous. A Lost Maney Package Found.